

## Chanukah Party

### "Starlight Excess" Right On Track

When did you last take a ride to sit by a lake and sip a long, cool Diet Coke? And when was the last time you received Chanukah gelt or got to show off your talents (in public)? All these delightful experiences are possible at our coming annual Chanukah party, titled "Starlight Excess." This daylight event will take place on the shores of the famous Lake Merced and will feature some of Sha'ar Zahav's own shining stars performing in our first-ever talent show. Get your act together. Welcome aboard, children of all ages, for an afternoon of music, dreidel, latkes, drinks and much fun. And don't forget to buy your tickets! Raffle tickets that is! This year's first prize—\$500 Chanukah gelt (cash). Second prize, GE Spacemaker III microwave oven. Third prize, Sony Discperson compact disc player.

Tickets cost \$3 each, \$10 for four, or \$25 for a book of 12 tickets. Please sell the book(s) enclosed and call to order more. Ticket stubs and checks can be sent to the office or bring them to Friday night services and deposit them in the specially marked box. Remember, more tickets—more gelt!

Mark your calendars now because this year's Chanukah chairperson, Rosalinda del Moral, will accept no excuses for your not being there!

*Date:* Sunday, December 20 (6th night). *Time:* 2-6 pm. *Place:* Lake Merced Boat House, Lake Merced, San Francisco. *Cost:* \$5 for members, \$7 for non-members, all children free.

There's still time to register for the talent show. Contact Shana Winokur, Gary Glasser, Allan Gold or Rosalinda to get

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## From the Rabbi

### Silence = Death

The March on Washington transformed our nation's capital into "sacred space" and the days surrounding the March into "sacred time." One speaker at the New Jewish Agenda Havdalah program described it as summer camp for grown-ups. The customary rules of social engagement were suspended in favor of utopian replacements—people riding down on the long, long escalators into the D.C. Metro sang rounds with those riding up. I will only recount several of my most personal memories. I will wait for others to produce the definitive written account (and the video) of all that went on during these special days.

The crowd was larger than anyone imagined it would be. Most reliable estimates started at half a million. The march began promptly at noon and four hours later thousands of people were still going by. I was struck by the size of the delegations from less well-known centers of gay life—like the 2,000 marchers from Tennessee or the large

group from Juneau, Alaska. The Kansas delegation had signs which said, of course, "I don't think we're in Kansas anymore..." On Saturday night, Constitution Hall (home of the DAR) was sold out for a band concert; hundreds of gay and lesbian Jews attended Havdalah, while a line of people stretched around the block waiting to enter Lambda Rising, Washington's gay and lesbian bookstore. Throughout the weekend, we were everywhere—and every one treated each other like family. I discovered in myself a new tolerance for many of the people whose costume, attitudes or style often make me uncomfortable. By virtue of having come to the march, we shared a commitment which helped me see past the differences between us.

The Names Project Quilt was more beautiful, more wonderful and more sad than I believed to be possible. For many, finding the panel of a loved one became the funeral which they could not attend

(Continued on page 5)



## But Can You Change a Light Bulb?

*This column is dedicated to Jacqueline Letalien in appreciation for all she has taught me, and all of us, about the joy of giving to Sha'ar Zahav and about how it helps us to love ourselves more.*

In September I wrote about how I came to discover that the "elite" of Sha'ar Zahav does not exist, and that all of us who volunteer and work for the synagogue become part of that special group that is open to everyone. Some have "joined the club," as I suggested, but many have not because many of us believe that we have nothing special or worthwhile to offer. I believe that if we simply look at the activities and pastimes that we enjoy in our personal life, we will realize that we possess special talents and can translate them into mitzvahs for our community.

Last month I wrote about the sense of sadness and loss that many of us feel in autumn and to some extent all the time now with friends and loved ones ill and dying too young. I know that giving of myself at such times not only is of service to my community, but also makes me feel more alive, more worthwhile, and happier that I have affirmed life in the face of tragedy.

So. Did you feel anything about the Bork nomination? Have you ever been moved to write to an elected official, circulate a petition or speak out against injustice? Ami Zusman and the Social Action Committee would like to get to know you. Do you enjoy having a few people over for a visit and putting out a plate of cookies or brewing a pot of coffee for them? Bill Ashley-Dobbin and Lawney Baldwin do, and they can use your help with oneq once in a while. Did you ever write an article for a school newspaper? When you're reading other people's written work, do you ever notice typos or grammatical errors? You might enjoy writing or editing for *The Gaily Forward*. Have you ever put a letter in an envelope? Join the newsletter stuffing party once a month—everyone enjoys the camaraderie!

Getting the idea? Like to meet new people? Robin Leonard, Membership Committee chair does too! Speaking of new people, do you enjoy entertaining? Decorating? Playing games? Giving

away prizes? The Social Program Committee offers this and much more. If you want to help with Chanukah, call Rosalinda del Moral. I promise you'll be glad you did. Do you enjoy the company of children? Our Children's Havurah has an abundance. Have you admired all the wonderful public relations we've been having lately? Do you have a talent in that area? Sharyn Saslafsky and Andy Zimmerman sure do.

Everyone agrees our services are beautiful. Rabbi Kahn and the Ritual Committee, chaired by Steve Greenberg welcome new participants at all levels. Do you enjoy digging into the meaning of rules and regulations and finding ways of clarifying and updating them? Our bylaws could use you. (See me.)

Have you ever visited a sick friend? Can you bake a batch of cookies or make something else good to eat? Bikkur Cholim does this sort of good work every day. Our monthly brunches for Kaiser AIDS patients can use any number of talented people, both on the days of the visits and behind the scenes.

Ever attended a class or lecture? Do you have some ideas about what our education program should offer? Are you interested in the development of our library? Bill Goldstein and the Education Committee are ready and waiting for your participation.

Do you enjoy studying finances and budgets? Would you like to be directly involved in the fiscal life of the congregation? Talk to Finance chair Don Albert. Are you a woman interested in a variety of activities in the company of women? Join the Havurah!

None of the above? Well ... can you change a light bulb? Call David Gellman, Building Committee chair. You'll thank me.

Happy Thanksgiving.

—Richard Inlander, President

## Condolences

We at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav extend our sympathy to the following member who has suffered a recent loss:

To **Leonard Brill** on the recent loss of his mother, Minnie Brill.

### For Sale

Souvenir  
10th Anniversary  
Posters

*unfolded, suitable for framing*

\$10 each

To order, contact the  
synagogue office

*The Jewish Gaily Forward* is published 11 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce non-copyrighted material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$12/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Bob Goldware (Articles Coordinator), Peter Vishniac (Advertising Coordinator), Howard Blechman, Alex Ingersoll, Garry Koenigsberg, Irene Ogus, Alita Rosenfeld and David Stein (general editorial and production); Amy Blasenheim (photos); Frank Hyman, Ben Schalit, Sam Thal and Eli Weinstein (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Pagesetter Typography and printed by Lou Greene.

**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the 10th of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste. For more information on advertising rates and charges, call the synagogue office at 861-6932.



## Calendar for 5748

### December 1987

- 15 Chanukah (first candle)
- 20 Chanukah Party

### February 1988

- 3 Tu Bishvat
- 13 Women's Havurah, Games Party

### March 1988

- 2 Erev Purim
- 12 Women's Havurah, Shabbat Torah study

### April 1988

- 1 Erev Pesach (1st Seder)
- 2 Community Seder (2nd Seder)
- 14 Yom Hashoah
- 21 Israel Independence Day

### May 1988

- Congregational Meeting/Elections
- 5 Lag B'Omer
- 15 Women's Havurah Picnic, Lafayette Reservoir
- 21 Erev Shavuot

### June 1988

- Parade
- Installation of Officers
- 11 Women's Havurah, Annual Pool Party

### July 1988

- Leadership Advance
- 24 Tisha B'av

### September 1988

- 11 Erev Rosh Hashanah
- 20 Kol Nidre
- 25 Erev Sukkot

## Chanukah Party

*(Continued from page 1)*

your act on stage.

It's also time to donate a service (foot massage, language lessons, legal services) or an attractive item for sale during the silent auction. Contact Alan Craig, Kipp Leyser or Jane Graeven.

And don't forget to bring your own Menorah. We will close the party with the lighting of the sixth night candles. These beautiful lights together with each of us who is a star in his or her own way should leave us with a wonderful Chanukah memory. All aboard for the ride and we'll see you there!

—Rosalinda del Moral, Chair

## Health Emergency

Almost two years ago, I underwent cancer therapy and my doctors believe I may be cured. Unfortunately, I have just learned that I have developed a bone marrow disorder which was caused by the chemotherapy. The disorder leads to a form of leukemia which is fatal in adults. The only potential cure is a bone marrow transplant if a suitable donor "match" can be found. There is virtually no risk to a marrow donor. A simple blood test determines whether you are a potential donor. I will pay for all blood tests; there is no charge of any type to donors. Taking the blood test does not commit you to anything. People positive for exposure to the AIDS virus should not take the test, but if you are HIV negative or do not know your HIV status, please participate.

Allan Gold is coordinating this effort. *If you are willing to take the screening blood test and would like more information, please call Allan first at 929-9524 as soon as possible, leaving your evening phone number on his answering machine.*

Please also ask your friends if they are willing to be tested. If you are willing to put up a flyer at your place of work, school, etc., please let Allan know.

If we can get a sufficiently large group of people willing to be tested, the lab will send a technician to our location to take blood samples. It is also possible to go directly to certain labs, which perform this screening test. A physician's note will be provided if you want to take off time from work to be tested.

I want to thank all who have expressed their concern. Your calls, notes and other acts of kindness mean a great deal to me. Please consider this blood test yet another Mitzvah opportunity! With thanks and love,

—Cheryl Orvis

## Social Action

### CSZ Sanctuary Funds Help Free Refugee

Fernando Baires is a young Salvadoran refugee who fled the civil unrest and violence in El Salvador, only to be incarcerated in the Immigration and Naturalization Service's detention center in El Centro (near the California-Mexico border). Now, thanks to fund raising efforts by Sha'ar Zahav and the San Francisco Jewish Sanctuary Coalition, Fernando, 16, is free on bail and able to pursue political asylum in this country; in October, bond was posted for Fernando's release. He is now living in a house in Oakland, arranged by another Sanctuary congregation.

Fernando's release is one of the ways in which Sha'ar Zahav, as part of its Covenant of Sanctuary adopted last year, is helping refugees from El Salvador and Guatemala. This year, we raised over \$900 for our Sanctuary Bond Fund through sales of Rosh Hashanah cards and other contributions. (We also worked with the Jewish Sanctuary Coalition to raise funds for refugees.) We have now

nearly approached the \$2,000 mark toward our initial goal of \$3,000 for our Sanctuary Bond Fund. All monies in the Sanctuary Fund go into a revolving bond fund for incarcerated refugees, so that they can be released to pursue asylum. You may contribute to refugees' bail by making a check to Sha'ar Zahav, designated for the Sanctuary Bond Fund.

**Proposed Changes in Asylum Regulations:** Proposed INS regulations would make it more difficult for refugees to gain asylum by denying refugees the right to present witnesses and evidence prepared by independent human rights organizations, such as Amnesty International, and would give the INS complete power to determine asylum cases. To oppose the proposed regulations, write to Richard A. Sloan, Director, Policy Directives and Instructions, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 425 "I" St., Room 2011, Washington, DC 20036.

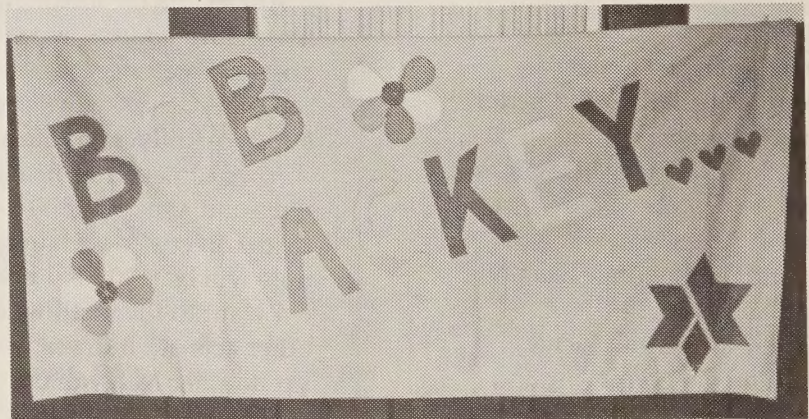
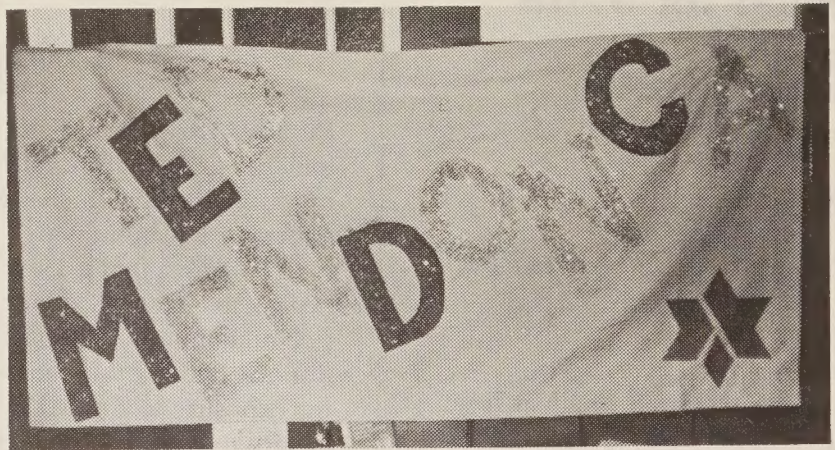
—Ami Zusman, Chair



## Names Project Quilt

Members of Sha'ar Zahav were part of the Names Project—a fitting and moving memorial to those who have succumbed to AIDS. Rabbi Kahn and Paul Cohen of our Bikkur Cholim committee coordinated our efforts. Friends, relatives and lovers of CSZ members cut, stitched and glued images and memories onto 3 x 6 foot panels, each capturing the spirit of our lost members. Each panel was sewn together as part of the double-football-sized quilt of panels unfurled at the March on Washington last month.

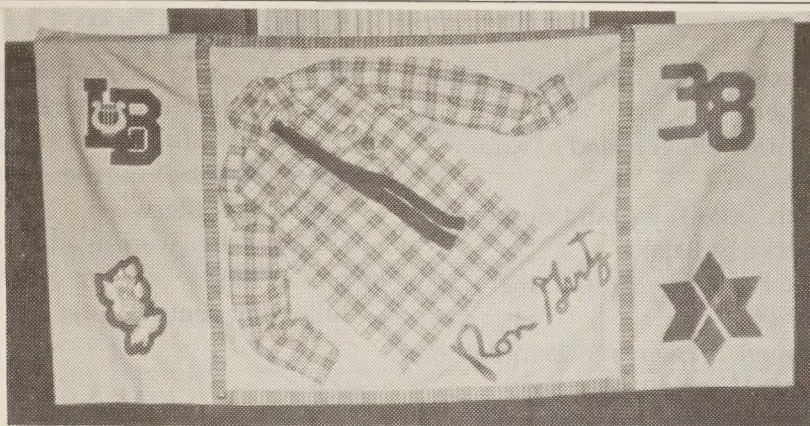
David Stein provided the background material for the banners with Frank Hyman and George Lucas hemming the edges and Ralph Frischman creating the logos which were affixed before Slichot services. Many CSZ members were at the Washington March bearing witness to the memory of our members whose names are now part of a vast, traveling memorial to those who have fallen.



Allan Altman  
Alan Ellis  
Mark Feldman  
Ron Gertz  
David Kotch

Mark Landsberger  
Bob Mackey  
Ted Mendonca  
Steven Richter  
Joe Zygielbaum





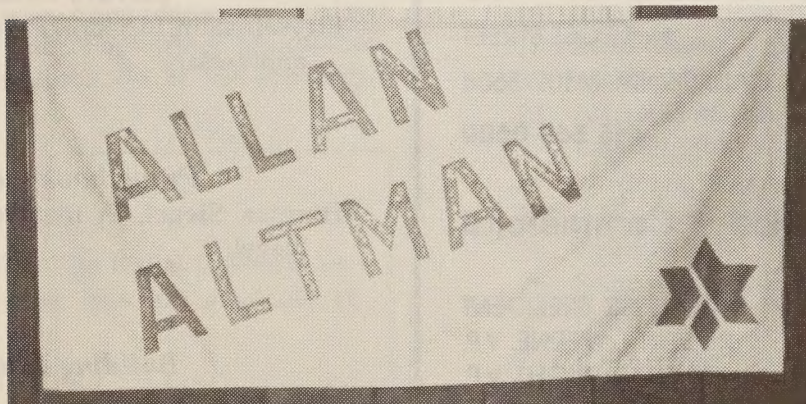
## Damp Shoulder

*The Project of Names is a quilt on the floor;  
It lays with his plaid shape glued tight.  
A medley of rags but I cannot sing more,  
For his Song is gem-squared to that sight.*

*I fall to the carpet, face hard by his shirt;  
Tears welling and spilling from deep in my core.  
Those ribbons and felt, felt itchy and hurt,  
Yet I press my past tense Kohinoor.*

*Pulling back from that panel that luminous night,  
Tear opals soaked in, marking sadness inert.  
Now we'll both be aclamber White Monument height;  
My mourning dew with him atop the Mall dirt.*

Howard Blechman, 9/21/87



## From the Rabbi

(Continued from page 1)

or never happened. Every stray thread was carefully trimmed off by the monitors. After locating the section with the names of our deceased members, I recited Kaddish and wept. An additional thousand panels arrived too late to be included in the quilt at this time—they will be added in coming months. Organizers hope to display the quilt in San Francisco sometime next year.

The media did their best to trivialize the size and significance of the event. Most dispatches relied on the official police estimates of the size of the march. Over and over, "AIDS victims" were the focus of coverage to the exclusion of gay and lesbian people and their friends, many with AIDS, who were marching to demand their rights. Similarly, when the Pope came to San Francisco, coverage of the demonstrations and protests—including one inside Mission Dolores Church by people with AIDS—were censored by the media.

The most popular T-shirt at the march had a pink triangle on black fabric. Beneath the triangle was printed "Silence = Death." This simple slogan sums up the purpose of the March. We have learned from our history, as Jews and as gay and lesbian people, that silence in the face of oppression leads to death. What our oppressors invented as a sign of shame has been transformed into a badge of courage—and a reminder of the consequences of silence.

We cannot be silent in the face of oppression. We must not be oppressed by our nation's silence on AIDS. If we are not continually active and noisy in our demands for health care, non-discrimination and research funding, then this prophecy will come true.

Despite the tears and the anger, this march was healing and empowering for all who participated. It was another deliberate step in "choosing life."

On November 26, the gay and lesbian community and our friends will walk down Market Street to City Hall, in our twice-annual candlelight pilgrimage. Sha'ar Zahav will gather in front of Walt Whitman Books before the march. During this fall Yizkor event, we renew life by remembering Harvey Milk and his vision and invite the spirit which moved him and all those we remember to live on in us. Let us continue to choose life.

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn



## Yahrzeits

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Jennie Mantey, aunt of Bill Schlichter                            | 14 Anna Cohen, grandmother of Jay Cohen                        |
| 2 Carmen Schlichter, grandmother of Bill Schlichter                 | 15 Leatrice Billig, friend of Robin Leonard                    |
| 4 William Mantey, grandfather of Bill Schlichter                    | 15 Leah Saslafsky, grandmother of Sharyn Saslafsky             |
| 4 Isidor Paker, father of Perry Paker                               | 16 Abe Kaminsky, grandfather of Jay Cohen                      |
| 6 Irene Sherwin, grandmother of Rob Tat                             | 20 Samuel Cronenwalt, grandfather of Steven Cronenwalt         |
| 6 (14 Heshvan) Hyman Richshafer, grandfather of Sherie Ann Koshover | 21 Joseph Kupferman, father of Martin Kupferman                |
| 7 Anna Gold, grandmother of Allan Gold                              | 23 Nathan Thal, brother of Sam Thal                            |
| 7 Roy Spaugh, grandfather of Diane Spaugh                           | 24 Samuel Dunn, grandfather of Eileen Dunn                     |
| 7 Pearl Tattelbaum, grandmother of Yael Silverberg                  | 24 (3 Kislev) Nathan Handman, grandfather of Jonathan Schwartz |
| 8 Charlie Martin Dobkins, father of Jim Dobkins                     | 24 Esther Kalis, mother of Betty Kalis                         |
| 8 Dina Raven, grandmother of Allyce Kimerling                       | 24 Louis Nutes, grandfather of Barry Siegel                    |
| 9 (17 Heshvan) Hermina Tick, grandmother of Sandra Blair            | 24 Sue Reid, friend of Carol Hoffman                           |
| 9 Joseph Goldstein, father of Bill Goldstein                        | 25 Fred Weiss, grandfather of Wendy Weiss                      |
| 10 (18 Heshvan) Harry Berenstein, father of Allan Berenstein        | 25 (4 Kislev) Morris Schwartz, father of Jonathan Schwartz     |
| 10 Donald Julian Krintzman, friend of Jerome Goldstein              | 28 Alvin Baum, Sr., father of Alvin Baum, Jr.                  |
| 10 (18 Heshvan) George Israel Moskowitz, father of Ron Moskowitz    | 28 (7 Kislev) Maurice Osser, father of Gordon Osser            |
| 11 Charles Parsell, uncle of Bill Schlichter                        | 29 Boris Porter, grandfather of Jane Graeven                   |
| 13 (21 Heshvan) Mary Goldman, grandmother of Jonathan Goldman       | 29 (8 Kislev) Estelle Weisman, mother of Mark Weisman          |

*Note: Yahrzeits will be read at services on the Friday preceding the Yahrzeit date.*

## Contributions

**S**ha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in past months by the following contributors:

### *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

**Elizabeth Sue Will**

**Eli Weinstein**, in honor of Sen Talley's bat mitzvah

**Mike Rankin**, in honor of Rob Tat's birthday

### *General Fund*

**Jon Funk**, in honor of Susan Unger and the entire Cookbook Committee

**Bernard Katzman**

**Mrs. Bernard Levy**, in honor of Sen Talley's bat mitzvah

**David Stein & Alex Ingersoll**, in memory of Albert & Fannie Stein

**Mark Mendelow**, in honor of Alex & David's anniversary

**Joyce Amburgey & Cindy Schorr**, in memory of Abraham Schorr, Eugene Childress, Glenn Childress, Leon Childress

**Pauline Stein**, in honor of the Congregation's Tenth Anniversary.

### *AIDS Fund*

**Bill Ashley-Dobbin**, in memory of Ashley Dobbin

**Mark Mendelow**, in honor of Rob Tat's birthday and his new home

### *Library Fund*

**Eli Weinstein**, in honor of David & Alex's anniversary

### *Prayerbook Fund*

**Herman Siegel**, in memory of David Siegel

### *Building Fund*

**Marilyn Braiger**



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# NOVEMBER

# חשוון-כסלו

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9 Cheshvan 1	10 2	11 3	12 4	13 5	14 6	15 7
UAHC Biennial, Chicago	UAHC Biennial	Education Night Newsletter Comm., 140 Ord, 7:30pm	Jewish Art Series, 7:30pm	Ritual Committee, 6:30pm	Services, 8:15pm Dr. Naomi Janowitz, Speaker	Adrienne Rich, 150 Eureka, 7:30pm
16 8	17 9	18 10	19 11	20 12	21 13	22 14
Rev. Karen Ziegler, 150 Eureka, 11am	Va'ad Meeting, 6:30pm Newsletter Deadline	Education Night	Soviet Vigil, Green & Baker, 11:30am Jewish Art Series, 7:30pm		Services, 8:15pm	
23 15	24 16	25 17	26 18	27 19	28 20	29 21
		Education Night	Jewish Art Series, 7:30pm	Ritual Committee, 6:30pm	Family Service, 7:30pm Adult Service, 8:30pm	
1 Kislev 22	2 23	3 24	4 25	5 26	6 27	7 28
Rosh Chodesh		Education Night	Newsletter Mailing, 11 Grandview Terr., 7:30pm	AIDS Candlelight March	Services, 8:15pm	Morning Service, 10:30am Family Havurah Havdalah Potluck, 4:00pm, 653-3236
8 29	9 30					

## Family Service

The congregation will have its first-ever Family Shabbat Service on Friday night, November 20 at 7:30 pm. A special children's liturgy and music will be led by Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Ritual Chair Steve Greenberg. The goal of this service is to make our children and their parents feel welcome and part of the synagogue in a setting planned with their needs in mind. There will also be an adult Friday evening service beginning at 8:30 (a later starting time). For further information, contact Rabbi Kahn at the synagogue office.

*Ed. Note:* The Ritual Calendar for November was not available at press time.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Birthdays

- 1 Steven Polsky
- 4 Robert Kravitz
- 4 Mark Reisman
- 5 Frank Masson
- 5 Sasha Tsipur
- 6 Deborah Lieberman
- 7 Steve Greenberg
- 9 Arthur Reichstadt
- 14 Jonathan Goldman
- 17 Shem Tsipur
- 20 Ali Cannon
- 23 Arlene Hoffman
- 23 Randall Schiller
- 24 Lawrence Burke
- 26 Allan Blumenfeld
- 26 Cheri Pies
- 28 Beatrice Lieberman
- 29 Hal Podgur
- 29 Mark Vogel

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Family/Children's Havurah Potluck

The Family/Children's Havurah will be holding a Havdalah potluck on Saturday, November 28 at 4 pm. All are welcome. For location and more information, call Margaret at 653-3236.

## The CSZ Cookbook

### Out of Our Kitchen Closets

Available through our synagogue office as well as through your local bookseller. Call 861-6932 to order copies for yourself and for Chanukah giving.



**DO IT NOW!** Goal oriented, down to earth counseling in the *here and now* for the individual or couple wishing to work on issues of life's frustrations and transitions, relationships, illness and injury. *Take care of today's problems today.* By appointment.  
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## High Holy Days

### Brought to You By ...

Each year, first-time visitors and seasoned members alike marvel at the richness and breadth of our Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. Ritual is the most public aspect, but there are many, many supporting roles.

The following people took responsibility for coordinating the complex aspects of ritual, oneg, ushering, child-care, sound, transportation and supplies:

Bill Ashley-Dobbin, Lawney Baldwin, Sue Douglass, Steve Greenberg, Shirley Liberman, Barry Rosen and Randy Schiller.

They were ably assisted by the following people who helped make everything run so smoothly:

Bob Berkowitz, Allen Brandstein, Phil Charney, Paul Cohen, Steve Elman, Jay Feinstein, David Friedman, Buzz Galbraith, Yoram Gall, David Gass, Rochelle Glickman, Allan Gold, Jane Graeven, Allen Harris, Marjorie Hilsenrad, Ida Kuluk, Dana Lear, Simma Lieberman, George Lucas, Michael McCormick, Ellen Peskin, Ora Prochovnick, Nathan Robinson, Alita Rosenfeld, Paul Sacks, Arthur Seidman, Kathy Sharp, Richard Sinkoff, Sandy Stone, Diane Spough, Peter Vishniac, Eli Weinstein and Andy Zimmerman.

—Ellen Kugler, *High Holy Day*  
 Coordinator

## Va'ad Report

President Richard Inlander called the Va'ad's September 12 meeting to order. In a *D'var Torah*, Ritual Committee chair Steve Greenberg described the transition from the spiritual to the physical that is reflected in the holidays we celebrate; after the spiritual focus of Yom Kippur, we turn our attention to building the sukkah and the physical fulfillment of Sukkot. With Simchat Torah, the cycle begins anew.

UAHC Liaison Mike Rankin noted that scholarships to Camp Swig are available to the children of CSZ members, and encouraged scholarship applications to be made through the UAHC office. Richard announced that Mike Rankin, Irene Ogus, Rabbi Yoel Kahn and they will be Sha'ar Zahav's representatives at the UAHC biennial in Chicago, October 29 through November 2. Richard said he will be writing letters to presidents of congregations in the northern California region urging them to join CSZ in supporting a number of the resolutions that will be voted on at the biennial.

Richard described the proposal submitted by the Bikkur Cholim Committee to start a monthly potluck brunch program for people with AIDS at Kaiser Hospital, to be coordinated by Howard Bobren. The Va'ad approved \$300 from the AIDS Fund to support this program through December, and encouraged CSZ members and friends to participate by attending and donating a potluck dish. The Va'ad also encourages contributions to the AIDS Fund, on which greater demands are being placed.

Treasurer Eric Keitel reported that over

50 Sha'ar Zahavniks have not yet renewed their memberships, but said his recent letter should prompt the expected renewals.

Richard thanked High Holidays coordinator Ellen Kugler on behalf of the Va'ad and the community for the extraordinary job she did, and expressed his thanks to the Ritual Committee for the wonderful job they did as well. The Va'ad explored ideas for solving the problem of not enough seating for all of the people who want to attend High Holiday services at Unitarian Center.

The Va'ad unanimously approved Membership Committee chair Robin Leonard's motion to vote 14 new members into membership. Robin expects to present numerous additional memberships at the November Va'ad meeting. She also reported that Sha'ar Zahav's cookbook, *Out of Our Kitchen Closets*, is now being sold in 39 bookstores nationwide and in Canada. Vice President Irene Ogus encouraged CSZ members and friends to buy cookbooks through the synagogue office.

Richard noted Social Action chair Ami Zusman has reported that through CSZ's revolving bond fund, bail will be posted for a teenaged refugee from El Salvador to be released from detention.

Join us again next month for another discussion-filled evening at the synagogue, and find out first hand about your board's decisions and deliberations. Va'ad meetings take place at 6:30 pm on the second Monday of each month. All CSZ members are welcome to attend. Please do!

—Ben Schalit, *Recorder*

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**MEMBERSHIP**  
 Check it out.  
 Besides the benefits, it feels good  
 to be part of Sha'ar Zahav.



## High Holiday Ritual Thank You

Many people can take credit for the beauty of our High Holiday services this year.

Lately, people have commented that the Ritual Committee acts as "special events" committee during the High Holiday season. From May through the end of Yom Kippur, committee members and other service leaders take on myriad responsibilities in addition to their regular duties. Special thanks go to: Leslie Bergson, Tiela Chalmers, Paul Cohen, Daniel Chesir, Sue Douglass, Steve Elman, Aaron Frankel, Jonathan Funk, Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Eric Keitel, Garry Koenigsberg, Ora Prochovnick, Mike Rankin, Bill Schlichter, Jonathan Schwartz, Nancy Snow, Dana Vinicoff and Shana Winokur.

Much appreciation goes to Randy Schiller for donating his sound equipment and coming early to services to set up and adjust controls—he "saved the day"; to Alex Ingersoll and David Stein for donating two beautiful cloths to adorn the Ark and the Torah reading tables, and for acting as "pulpit design consultants"; and to the House of Flowers for donating lovely floral arrangements for the pulpit.

We would also like to thank our Torah and Haftarah chanters, Leslie Bergson, Daniel Chesir, Aaron Frankel, Steve Greenberg, Rabbi Kahn, Garry Koenigsberg, Rabbi Sandy Lowe, Terry Rothchild, Ben Schalit, Nancy Snow and Dana Vinicoff; our Shofar blowers, Don Albert, Steve Cronenwalt, Leila Raim, Pam Schaffer, David Stein and Marion Trentman; our choral music coordinator Dana Vinicoff; our choral groups, the Sha'ar Zahav Ensemble, the Hallel Brothers and the as-yet-unnamed quartet; our sermonizers, Steve Greenberg, Rabbi Kahn, Robin Leonard (Second Day Rosh Hashanah) and Dana Vinicoff; our Kol Nidre instrumentalists, Emil Miland (cellist) and Robin Sutherland (pianist); and the staff at the Unitarian Center.

A debt of gratitude is also due Richard Inlander for assistance, support and guidance; Jacqueline Letalien for administration, support and patience; Ellen Kugler for overall coordination, wisdom and toughness; and Rabbi Yoel Kahn for endurance and involvement in

## Out of Our KITCHEN CLOSETS

### Cookbook Sales Cookin'

We're in over 20 bookstores coast to coast," announced President Richard Inlander proudly at High Holiday services. Richard's pronouncement is now out of date; as of October 15, we're in 39 bookstores coast to coast, including Minneapolis; Detroit; Los Angeles; New Orleans; Philadelphia; New York; Miami; Washington, DC; Montreal; Eugene, Ore.; Missoula, Mont.; and of course San Francisco and the Bay Area. Although an exact count of how many books have been sold is impossible, we can say for certain that over 1000 have been distributed. We need to sell 1000 books for the synagogue to break even and for us to make a \$3000 donation to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank. We had hoped to sell 1000 by Chanukah; we will probably reach our goal by early November.

We are very pleased that our bookstore distribution is a success, and that the bookstores are supporting our project so

enthusiastically. Normally, when a bookstore sells a book, it takes 40 percent of the cover price and the publisher gets 60 percent. Because our project is a fund raiser for the Food Bank and our synagogue, virtually all of the bookstores have agreed to reduce their percentage to 25 percent.

Anyone who has paid for a cookbook but has not yet received it should call the office and make an arrangement to pick it up. They've all been sent out, and if you still haven't received yours it means you indicated on your order form that you would pick it up. We also encourage all of you (and your friends) who wish to buy your first copy or your 10th copy to do so through the synagogue, if possible. Please either call the office to arrange an in-person or mail order, or start coming to services a bit earlier; we will be selling them in the synagogue on Friday evenings prior to services.

—Robin Leonard

all the work listed above. Final thanks goes to our congregation, a most inspired and inspiring crowd, and really, a hard act to follow.

—Steve Greenberg, Chair  
Ritual Committee

### SPONSOR AN ONEG!

It's a great way to  
celebrate a special occasion.

### Oneg Sponsors

During September, onegs were sponsored by the following generous people:

- 4 Bill Ashley-Dobbin, in honor of five years clean, clear and sober
- 11 Ellen Peskin and Francie Hornstein, in honor of their 13th anniversary
- 18 Ben Schalit and Richard Inlander, in honor of their first anniversary

All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring a complete oneg is \$80 or, for partial sponsorship, \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.



## So Ask Aunt Yente

Dear Aunt Yente,

As a non-Jew invited to attend your synagogue's Friday night services, I was impressed (overwhelmed would be a better word) with the many wonderful snacks afterward. I was curious about the wine you served, though; it tasted, uh, distinctive. Is there a special reason for the unique vintage?

Curious on Carl

Dear Curious,

So nice it is a letter should come from someone outside our congregation: not only because it makes Aunt Yente feel like she is spreading understanding, but the phrasing also is *zehr* polite. From most of the people Aunt Yente knows, the letter would say: so what's the matter with you idiots? With all the good *nosh*, the only wine you can find is this garbage? Feh.

But actually, such a letter from her usual beloved readers Aunt Yente wouldn't expect, because most of them know that a blessing can only be made over sweet "Jewish" wine. Of course, some of the things her beloved readers know are wrong; but if they weren't, so for what would they need an Aunt Yente? (But do they ever send Yente Day cards?)

Hard as it is to believe, *kinderlach*, there is no law that wine for Kiddush has to taste like cough syrup. Rather, the *halochah* says that wine for Kiddush should be costly and delicious. But as you maybe noticed, what *we* say Kiddush over is about as delicious as Nyquil, and as far as expense, "specially sweetened" Concord wine is not exactly fought over by the world's wine mayvans. (Except for

Aunt Yente's Uncle Chremsel, who has made a name for himself with his latest bottlings of Chateau Haut-Newark. What kind of name? You shouldn't ask.)

A good wine is like a good chicken soup—clear, delicate, light on the palate, with afterflavors of spring grass and just a hint of garlic. (Listen—you have your flavors, and Aunt Yente has her own.) So why do we wind up with the purple *yoiich* from the bottles with a man in a tallis on the label (he *and* his tallis should be ashamed of themselves)?

So if you look in the Bible, at the book of Daniel (you remember, the one who told Nebuchadnezzar that there was an evil destiny written on his wall, and he should use instead a bold fabric), you will see that even back then Daniel was careful only to drink Jewish wine. We were afraid either that other wine might have been used for idols, or that non-Jews would, accidentally or not, put abominations in the wine which Jews shouldn't drink. In the Talmud, the laws were made so strict that even a sealed bottle of wine handled by non-Jews was forbidden. (Actually, it maybe wasn't forbidden if it was sealed with a double seal, but the Marine Mammals Protection Act made this impractical.) The Talmud does say, however, that boiled Jewish wine, even with a single seal, would remain kosher when handled by non-Jews.

So this is what you have in a bottle of our kiddush wine. It is Jewish-made wine, so hopefully the ham content is low, and it is kosher to start; and then the wine has been boiled, so that it becomes

halochically not-wine (and tastes like it) and can be handled by non-Jews without being contaminated. That it is also sweet enough to cause convulsions is not *halochah*, but Tradition; there are good quality, dry kosher wines from the Napa and elsewhere, but they cost.

So does all this make sense nowadays? Aunt Yente says no. The number of bottles of Mondavi cabernet that are waved before statues of Moloch is *takke* strictly limited by the Alcoholic Beverage Commission, and most of us know that not very much pig's blood is added even to naive local vintages; but we still stick to Manischewitz because we don't want "them" involved with our wine. The Yiddish word for this is "xenophobia." (Actually, xenophobia is a Greek word. The Yiddish expression is "xenophobia, *nebbech*.") Aunt Yente cannot argue that it is not part of our tradition, but she doesn't think it is a part we should be proud of, or one that we should continue to observe. She certainly cannot justify elevating such mishegas over the commandment to honor Shabbos, our most important holiday, with fragrant, good wine.

So will our synagogue change? It's been known to happen, but Aunt Yente isn't holding her breath. In the meantime, if you've been looking out for Aunt Yente, you can try to spot her at onegs. She's the one with the bottle of 1966 Chateau Longueville au Baron de Pichon, in a brown paper bag with a picture of a man in a tallis on it.

—Aunt Yente

Aunt Yente loves to receive your questions about Jewish law and ritual matters. Just write to Aunt Yente in care of the *Forward*, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, CA 94114. All material Copyright © 1987 Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

### ATTORNEY

**DAVID R. GELLMAN**  
**Goldstein & Gellman**  
**(415) 621-2966**

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•Estate Planning & Wills

•Real Estate  
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Evening &  
Weekend  
Appointments

1540 Market St  
Suite 490  
San Francisco

### Office Notes

**A Reminder to All Members ...** The synagogue office and the *Forward* depend on you to keep us up to date. Please call or write to report changes of address, phone numbers, new *yahrzeits*, anniversaries or any other vital information. Remember, it is *your* responsibility to notify us; if you don't tell us, we can't report it accurately!



## A Record Blood Drive

This year Alita Rosenfeld coordinated the annual CSZ blood drive which was held at the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank. We had the place to ourselves on Sunday. It was a fun way to do it and the atmosphere was enhanced by roses donated by Accent on Flowers.

Many thanks to Ellen Kugler for calling all CSZ members who were eligible to donate and scheduling their donation times. The time was well spent as a total of 28 units of blood were collected—a record for our congregation.

Those who came to donate were Leslie Bergson, Blanche Blachman, Rose Schneiderman, Sen Talley, Kate Rafael, Lisa Katz, Mort Landsberg, Molly Landsberg, Jill Chester, Kevin Hester, Francie Hornstein, Grant Ute, Sherie Koshover, Nancy Snow, Ilana Bernstein, Sally McFadden, Dey Ehrlich, Robin Barnett, Robin Silberman, Ora Prochovnick, Rena Frantz, Richard Ulsh, Sandra Blair, Tom Loos, Marcie Freed, Johanna Johnson, Lynne Scarper, Alita Rosenfeld, Debra Friedland, Ann Biderman, Joey Finkelstein, Debbie Jacobs and Lorraine Nacamulli.

Allan Berenstein coordinated the bakers and candy strippers who, at times, outnumbered the number of donors. Many thanks to Neil Hart, Bruce Katz, Alex Ingersoll, David Shaber, Steve Elman, Kathy Sharp, David Gass, Jay



Davidson, Allan Gold, Ralph Frischman, Mark Mendelow, Eric Keitel, Aaron Cooper and Rob Tat. There was a large amount of food left over at the end of the day which we took down to the AIDS/ARC vigil at the Federal Building.

Many people who couldn't make it that day will be donating on their own time. If you would like to do so, just tell the blood bank to credit the donation to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

PHOTOS BY AMY BLASENHEIM

## And Your Daughters Shall Prophecy

Dr. Naomi Janowitz, assistant professor of religious studies at UC Davis, will speak at Shabbat services at CSZ on Friday, November 6, in the first program of our "And Your Daughters Shall Prophecy" weekend. Prof. Janowitz's topic will be "No More Masks."

On Saturday night, November 7, at 7:30, poet and author Adrienne Rich will read from her work at a gala program. Co-sponsored by CSZ and Metropolitan Community Church San Francisco, the program will be held at MCC, 150 Eureka St. Tickets to the program are \$5-10/sliding scale and reservations are required—call the synagogue office to inquire about availability. On Sunday morning, November 8, at 11, Rev. Karen Ziegler, pastor of MCC New York will speak at MCC, in the final program of the weekend. Sha'ar Zahav members are invited to attend.

### Food Bank

Please, don't forget our brothers and sisters in need. Keep filling the shul's collection baskets with non-perishable food and other household items for the SF AIDS Foundation's residence program.





# Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

שַׁעַר זָהָב

220 DANVERS AT CASELLI, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94114

(415) 861-6932

## Rabbi Yoel Kahn

### Officers:

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*Vice President*, Irene Ogus  
*Treasurer*, Eric Keitel  
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Garry Koenigsberg  
Ellen Kugler  
Robin Leonard  
Alita Rosenfeld  
Susan Talley

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm, with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month.

### Committee Chairs:

*Bikkur Cholim*, Paul Cohen  
*Brotherhood*, by committee  
*Building*, David Gellman  
*Bylaws*, Richard Inlander  
*Family/Children's Havurah*, Sue Douglass & Jill Rose  
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*Membership*, Robin Leonard  
*Newsletter*, by committee  
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*Ritual*, Steve Greenberg  
*Social Action*, Ami Zusman  
*Social Program*, by committee  
*Women's Havurah*, by committee

### Data Managers:

Alita Rosenfeld  
Jerry Rosenstein

### Office Manager:

Jacqueline Letalien

**Synagogue Office:** Open Monday through Friday, 8 am to 2:30 pm. At other times, please leave a phone message.

**Emergency Number:** In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Ashbury to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

**Member** Union of American Hebrew Congregations and World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.

## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained several new members in October. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Marianne Ades & Kim Shae-Tofaute

Jay Davidson

Lyssa Friedman

Steven Kassirer

Grace Laurencin, Laurie Hauer,

Jordy Hauer-Laurencin

Marlene Ritchie

Ede Rosen

Martha Rosett

Herman Siegal

Sherry Sporn

Jeffrey Stermann

Lisa Szer, Nan Schlosberg,

Aarin-Ivriah Schlosberg

Sylvia Weisenberg

New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Anniversaries

19 Leslie Bergson & Nanci Stern

25 Peter Abinanti & Jeff Rils

26 Marilyn Kalman & Marta Wohl

27 Diane Sabin & Cindy Icke

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

A butcher, a baker, a  
candlestick maker?

Or possibly a therapist,  
accountant, painter or  
retailer?

If you wish to increase  
your business,  
consider placing an ad  
in *The Forward*.

For details, contact Peter  
Vishniac, 553-8676.